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(71) Applicant: THE PROCTER & GAMBLE CO [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cinci 45202 (US).	OMPA nnati, (NY OH	amendments.			
(72) Inventors: HUNTER, Mary, Ann; 8368 Jadv Cincinnati, OH 45216 (US). STAPLER, Jud 1084 Brown Road, Wilmington, OH 45177 (U	ith, Hil	eet,				
(74) Agents: REED, David, T. et al.; The Procter of Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincil 45202 (US).	& Gam nnati, (oble OH				
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(57) Abstract						
The present invention relates to oral compositions in the form of microcapsules which reduce oral bacteria and provide long lasting breath protection.						
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TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to oral compositions in the form of microcapsules which reduce oral bacteria and provide long lasting breath protection.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The use of breath control compositions such as breath mints, mouthwashes, chewing gums, etc. is widespread in most of the developed countries of the world. Another form which has been used are microcapsules containing a flavorant or other breath protection agent. These executions have acceptance due not only to their usefulness away from a place to expectorate mouthwashes but also due to the fact that they can be swallowed when the user does not need any more of the actives or doesn't want the microcapsule in the mouth any longer.

Although microcapsules have been used, there are problems associated with incorporating certain breath protection agents/antimicrobials into the core. Oftentimes the wall of the microcapsule may develop imperfections and cause loss of the contents prematurely. Additionally, the actives may not be easily solubilized in the materials usually present in the core.

The prior art discloses a variety of means for providing breath protection and reducing oral bacteria. Included among such means are sprays disclosed in <u>U.S. 3,431,208</u>, <u>March 4, 1969 to Bailey</u>. Particles containing an adhesive member are disclosed in <u>U.S. 3,911,099</u>, <u>October 7, 1975 to Den Foney et al</u>. Another form is a mouthwash concentrate in a unit dosage cup as disclosed in <u>U.S. 4,312,889</u>, <u>January 26</u>, <u>1982 to Melsheimer</u>. All of these references are incorporated herein by reference.

The present inventors have found that by incorporating the breath control/antimicrobial actives into the core of the microcapsule along with organic diluents, problems associated with other microcapsule executions can be avoided.

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It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide improved microcapsules.

It is another object of the present invention to provide microcapsules which provide improved breath control and reduce oral bacteria.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide improved methods of providing breath control and reducing oral bacteria.

These and other objects will become more apparent from the detailed description which follows.

All percentages and ratios used herein are by weight unless otherwise specified. Additionally, all measurements are made at 25°C unless otherwise specified.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention in one of its aspects relates to microcapsules which contain breath control actives/antimicrobials in the core of the microcapsule along with an organic diluent.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The essential as well as optional components of the capsules of the present invention are described in the following paragraphs.

Capsule Shell Material:

The shell material of the microcapsules of the present invention can be any materials which are suitable for ingestion as well as retention in the oral cavity. Materials which are suitable include gelatin, polyvinyl alcohols, waxes, gums and sugar candy type materials used in cough drops and mints, for example.

The shell material is used to form any of a wide variety of shapes such as spheres, oblong shapes, disks, puffed squares and cylinders. The shell thickness is preferably in the range of about 30um to about 2mm, preferably from about 70um to about 110um. If the microcapsules are spherical, the particle diameter is generally in the range of from about 2mm to about 9mm, preferably from about 3mm to about 7mm.

Breath Control Agents/Antimicrobials Present in the Core:

The breath control agents used in the cores of the microcapsules include quaternary ammonium salts such as pyridinium salts (e.g., cetyl pyridinium chloride), domiphen bromide, other cationic materials such as chlorhexidine salts, zinc salts and copper salts. Other organic agents such as triclosan and other noncationic water insoluble agents are also useful herein. Such materials are disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,043,154, August 27, 1991, incorporated by reference herein.

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These breath control/antimicrobial agents are used in an amount of from about 0.001% to about 2%, preferably from about 0.005% to about 1% of the total core contents.

Diluents for Use in Microcapsule Core:

The solubilizing agent for the breath control/antimicrobial agents used in the cores of the present microcapsules can be any of a number of materials. Preferred are oils such as corn, olive, rapeseed, sesame, peanut or sunflower. Other preferred materials are triglycerides such as Captex 300. These are used in an amount of from about 20% to about 80%, preferably from about 65% to about 70% of the total capsule weight.

Additional Agents Suitable for Use in the Core of Capsule:

The core of the microcapsules of this invention may contain any number of additional materials to provide additional efficacy and/or sensory perceptions. Such agents may include flavoring agents such as thymol, eucalyptol, menthol, methyl salicylate or witch hazel. These agents are used in an amount of from about .1% to about 25%, preferably from about 10% to about 15% of the total capsule weight.

In addition, a variety of sweetening agents such as sugars, corn syrups, saccharin or aspartame may also be included in the core. These agents are used in an amount of from about .1% to about 5%, preferably from about .35% to about .5% of the total capsule weight.

Method of Manufacture:

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The capsules of the present invention can be made using a variety of techniques. One method is described after the following examples.

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Industrial Applicability:

The capsules of the present invention are used by placing the capsules into the mouth and retaining them therein for a period sufficient to provide the desired effect.

The following examples further describe and demonstrate preferred embodiments within the scope of the present invention. The examples are given solely for the purposes of illustration and are not to be construed as illustrative of limitations of this invention. Many variations thereof are possible without departing from the invention's spirit and scope.

EXAMPLES 1-4

The following compositions/capsules are representative of the present invention.

	present interest	11-2-4-6/				
	<u>Component</u>		<u>Weight %</u>			
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	Gelatin	12.578	12.328	12.578	17.578	
	Sorbitol Solution	2.046	2.05	2.046	2.046	
	(70% Aqueous)					
	Saccharin	0.372	0.500	0.372	0.450	
20	FD&C Blue #1	0.002	0.002	0.002		
	FD&C Yellow #5	0.002	-	0.002	0.004	
	Captex 3001	72.140	70.00	71.925	66.142	
	Flavor	12.750	15.00	12.75	13.500	
	Cetyl Pyridinium	0.100	-	-	-	
25	Chloride					
	Domiphen Bromide	0.010	-	-	-	
	Chlorhexidine	-	0.12	-	-	
	ZnCl ₂	-	-	0.025	-	
	Sodium Lauryl Sulfate	-	-	0.300	-	
30	Triclosan	•	-	-	0.28	

¹⁾ Captex 300 is a triglyceride supplied by Capitol City Product, Columbus, Ohio.

The above compositions are prepared by mixing the components of the core in one container and the components of the shell in another container. The shell materials are heated to provide a fluid medium. The core and shell materials are then pumped

separately to a two-fluid nozzle submerged in an organic carrier medium. The capsules formed are allowed to cool and stiffen. They are then denatured and separated for further handling.

In the above compositions any of a wide variety of other shell materials, breath control agents, sweeteners as well as other components may be used in place of or in combination with the components listed above.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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- Microcapsules suitable for reducing oral bacteria and providing breath protection comprising a shell material suitable for use in the mouth and ingesting and a core composition comprising a breath protection agent/antimicrobial selected from the group consisting of quaternary ammonium salts, other cationic salts, copper salts, zinc salts, triclosan and mixtures thereof and an organic diluent.
- Microcapsules according to Claim 1 wherein the shell material
 is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol,
 gelatin, waxes, gums and sugar candies.
- 3. Microcapsules according to either of Claims 1 or 2 wherein the microcapsule is in the form of a sphere, oblong, disk, a puffed square, or a cylinder and the breath control agent is a quaternary ammonium salt.
- 4. Microcapsules according to any of Claims 1-3 wherein the microcapsules are in the form of spheres.
- 5. Microcapsules according to Claim 4 wherein the microcapsules are from about 2mm to about 9mm in diameter and the shell wall thickness is from about 30mm to about 2mm.
- 6. Microcapsules according to any of Claims 1-5 wherein the shell material is gelatin.
- 7. Use of a breath protection agent/antibacterial in the manufacture of microcapsules for reducing oral bacteria and breath odor in the mouth wherein the microcapsules comprise a shell material suitable for use in the mouth and ingesting and a core composition comprising a breath protection

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agent/antimicrobial selected from the group consisting of quaternary ammonium salts, other cationic salts, copper salts, zinc salts, triclosan and mixtures thereof and an organic diluent.

- 8. A manufacture according to Claim 7 wherein the microcapsule shell is made of gelatin.
- 9. A manufacture according to either of Claims 7 or 8 wherein the breath control/antimicrobial active is selected from the group consisting of cetyl pyridinium chloride, domiphen bromide and mixtures thereof.
- 10. A method according to any of Claims 7-9 wherein the microcapsule is in the form of a sphere.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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:ternational application No.

PCT/US 92/10500 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC5: A61K 9/50, A61K 7/16 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) TPC5: A61K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DIALOG: WPI, WPIL, CLAIMS, MEDLINE, EMBASE C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category* 1-10 WO, A1, 8100205 (ARTHUR BARR), 5 February 1981 Y (05.02.81)WO, A1, 9015592 (PATRICK JOHN SHANAHAN), 1-10 Y 27 December 1990 (27.12.90) 1-10 EP, A1, 0485616 (SUNSTAR KABUSHIKI KAISHA), Y 20 May 1992 (20.05.92), see page 2 lines 1-40 See patent family annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention Special categories of cited documents "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "E" ertier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other document published prior to the international filing date but later than "&" document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 1 6. 04. 93 26 March 1993 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patendaan 2

ANNELI JÖNSSON

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NL-2280 HV Rijswijk

Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)

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Information on patent family members

26/02/93

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